

Application No. 10/021,935  
Response to Office Action

Customer No. 01933

### R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

### THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 13, 15, 19 and 21 have been amended to replace "printing information" with "application data" as required by the Examiner.

In addition, claims 1, 7, 13 and 19 have been amended to recite that the page information is printed on the back surface of the sheet in Y/X form, wherein X is a total number of pages in a print job and Y is a page number of the printed sheet, as required by the Examiner.

Still further, claims 1, 3-7 and 9-24 have been amended to make some minor grammatical improvements and to correct some minor antecedent basis problems so as to put them in better form for issuance in a U.S. patent.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to claims 1, 3-7 and 9-24 be approved and entered.

### THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 1, 2, 6, 13, 14 and 18 were rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by USP 5,316,279 ("Corona"), and claims 3-5,

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7-12, 15-17 and 19-24 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of various combinations of Corona et al with USP 6,055,361 ("Fujita et al") and/or "Microsoft Corporation Notepad." These rejections, however, are respectfully traversed with respect to the claims as amended hereinabove.

As recognized by the Examiner, Corona et al mentions "the number of pages" at column 7, lines 38-44 as information, among other information, that can be printed on the cover sheet of a print job.

It is respectfully pointed out, however, that Corona et al does not disclose, teach or suggest printing page information on the back surface of a printed sheet in Y/X form, wherein X is a total number of pages in a print job and Y is a page number of the printed sheet, as according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 1, 7, 13 and 19.

Indeed, it is respectfully pointed out that according to Corona et al the information such as the number of pages is printed on the cover sheet, rather than on the backs of printed sheets. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the "number of pages" in Corona et al merely corresponds to the total number of pages (X) according to the claimed present invention. And it is respectfully submitted that there would be no need to print the page number (Y) of the printed sheet for the cover sheet page of Corona et al.

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In addition, it is respectfully submitted that the other cited references also fail to disclose, teach or suggest printing page information on the back surface of a printed sheet in Y/X form, wherein X is a total number of pages in a print job and Y is a page number of the printed sheet, as recited in amended independent claims 1, 7, 13 and 19.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 1, 7, 13 and 19, as well as each of claims 2-6, 8-12, 14-18 and 20-24 respectively depending therefrom, all clearly patentably distinguish over Corona et al, taken singly or in combination with Fujita et al and/or Microsoft Notepad, under 35 USC 102 as well as under 35 USC 103.

RE: INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The Examiner has not yet acted on the IDS filed with the original application papers on December 13, 2001, which is available in the Image File Wrapper of the present application, as shown in the attached contents listing of the IFW of the present application. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the documents submitted with the IDS on December 13, 2001, and it is respectfully requested that the Examiner return an initialed copy of the form PTO/SB/08A submitted with the IDS on December 13, 2001, to indicate that the

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documents listed thereon have been considered and made of record  
in the present application.

\* \* \* \* \*

In view of the foregoing, entry of this Amendment, allowance  
of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are  
respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or  
recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the  
undersigned for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

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10/021,935 Image forming apparatus

Image File Wrapper

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